

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 13947 061246Z

43

ACTION EA-14

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TAGS: PFOR, TH

SUBJ: MARSHAL PRAPHAT ON SENATOR GOLDWATER'S
ALLEGED COMMENT ABOUT THAILAND

REF : BANGKOK 13941
BANGKOK 13781

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF THE SEPTEMBER 5
PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAPHAT
CHARUSATHIEN PERTINENT TO SENATOR GOLDWATER'S ALLEGED COMMENTS
ON THAILAND IN DES MOINES AUGUST 31.

REPORTER: WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THE REACTION DISPLAYED BY
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY ON THE STATEMENTS MADE BY
SENATOR GOLDWATER, AS WELL AS ON THE REPORT THAT THE BUREAU
OF STATE UNIVERSITIES HAS ISSUED AN ORDER FORBIDDING OUTSIDERS
FROM TAKING PART IN PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND EXPRESSING VIEWS IN
UNIVERSITIES?

PRAPHAT: REGARDING GOLDWATER, I HAVE INSTRUCTED
OFFICIALS TO TRANSLATE THE STATEMENTS HE MADE ALREADY. FIRST OF
ALL I WISH TO POINT OUT THAT GOLDWATER IS A TEXAN, THEREFORE
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 13947 061246Z

HE COULD BE CALLED A COWBOY. WHEN COWBOYS SAY ANYTHING THEY

USE STRONG LANGUAGE AND THEY SPEAK IN SHORT SENTENCES. IF THE PERSONS LISTENING TO THEM ARE THEIR OWN FELLOW AMERICANS THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT IS MEANT. BUT WHEN FOREIGNERS LISTEN TO THE STATEMENTS MADE BY GOLDWATER THEY FEEL THAT HE USES STRONG LANGUAGE AND WITH NO THOUGHT PAID TO THE DIGNITY OF THE COUNTRY MENTIONED. TO PUT IT IN A NUTSHELL, GOLDWATER SAID SHOULD AGGRESSION BE COMMITTED AGAINST THAILAND AMERICA WOULD LAUNCH BOMBING IN THAILAND. THE SPEAKER MADE SHORT SENTENCES LIKE A TEXAN, LIKE A COWBOY. LISTENING TO THIS GRATES ON ONE'S EARS AND IS NOT AT ALL HARMONIOUS, BECAUSE GOLDWATER OR AMERICA HAS NO RIGHT WHATSOEVER TO COME AND LAUNCH BOMBING IN THAILAND. IT IS NOT AMERICA BUT THAILAND IS A COUNTRY THAT POSSESSES INDEPENDENCE IN FULL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE REAL INTENTION IN HIS STATEMENT IS INTERPRETED AS UNDERSTOOD BY AMERICANS, IT WOULD MEAN THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE BY GOLDWATER, ARE IN REALITY BENEFICIAL TO THAILAND. THIS IS BECAUSE AS A SENATOR AND A MEMBER OF THE U.S. CONGRESS HE APPROVES AID TO BE GIVEN TO HELP PROTECT THAILAND IN THE EVENT OF OUR COUNTRY BEING AGGRESSED BY AN ENEMY FROM OUTSIDE, AND BECAUSE THAILAND IS A COUNTRY THAT HAS RELATIONS WITH AMERICA AND THERE ARE COMMON INTERESTS BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES. THEREFORE, SHOULD AGGRESSION BE COMMITTED AGAINST US IT WOULD COME AND HELP US AND THAT AID WOULD BE IN THE FORM OF ITS AIRFORCE MIGHT. IF HE HAD PHRASED HIS STATEMENT THIS WAY IT WOULD HAVE SOUNDED HARMONIOUS AND PLEASING TO THE EARS OF PERSONS HEARING IT. BUT SINCE HE IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF TEXAS HE EXPRESSED HIMSELF IN A SENTENCE THAT WAS RATHER TOO SHORT AND SPARING OF WORDS, LIKE TEXANS IN GENERAL. THAT WAS WHY THE INTERPRETATION OF HIS STATEMENT DOES NOT SOUND NICE, BUT MY PERSONAL VIEW IS THAT HIS STATEMENT WAS WITH GOOD INTENTIONS, THAT IT IS NOT DAMAGING.

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